

Minutes of the Meeting of the Board of Trustees
Eastern Monroe Public Library

The regular scheduled monthly meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Eastern Monroe Public Library was held on March 20, 2018 at the Hughes Library.

Present: Maria Candelaria, Charles Green, Tim Hegarty, Sharon Laverdure (by telephone), Katherine Neville, Ann Super

Absent: Janis Selving, William Weitzmann

Staff in attendance: Sue Lyons, Mary Erm, Rosanne Hewitt

Guests – Bob Brown of RGB.

The meeting was called to order at 8:31 AM by President, Ann Super.

A. Hegarty/ C. Green moved to accept the minutes of the Feb. 20 meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

Bob Brown, who holds the lease on the Smithfield's Branch sketched out a couple of potential options to continue the operations of the branch at that location when the lease expires in December. Among those options would be possibly subdividing the roughly 5.5 acre site, tearing down an existing model home, and erecting a two story 5,000 square foot facility at a very rough cost of somewhere in the vicinity of \$160 to \$190 per square foot for a total of about \$1.15 million. A second possibility would be to sell all or part of the building in which the branch is currently located. Though he did not give a sale price, he noted that the entire property, consisting of three buildings – the main building, the model, and a nearby garage has been assessed at \$2.9 million.

Brown also noted that he was not inclined to extend the lease on a month to month basis after it expires in December, and would want at minimum a six month commitment.

S. McGraw/K. Neville made a motion to go into executive session to discuss matters of property. The motion passed unanimously. The executive session began at 9:09 and ended at 9:35 on a motion by S. McGraw/T/Hegarty. The motion passed unanimously.

S. Laverdure/T. Hegarty made a motion to authorize the board's attorney to begin formulating a memorandum of understanding between the EMPL and the Middle Smithfields Supervisors to develop a proposed library/municipal center at Echo Lake Park.

Public Comment - none

Treasurer's Report was emailed to Trustees previous to the meeting. K. Neville/S. McGraw moved to approve the bills as presented; motion carried unanimously.

President's Report – none

Buildings and Equipment – K/ Neville said she had toured the Hughes Library and identified several areas where maintenance was desperately needed, and urged the board to reach out to both the Foundation and the Friends if possible to leverage funding. The looming maintenance issues underscored, she said, the sense that “it’s even more important that we get out from under the Smithfields’ drain.”

Publicity & Community Relations – **None to report**

Policy and Operations – **None to report**

Director's Report: S. Lyon noted the heroic work of staffers during the March 2 nor'easter that devastated much of Monroe County and left thousands in the dark. Library staffers volunteer to fight their way in to make sure that the library opened only an hour later and provided a safe and comfortable environment for a flood of patrons. “We were packed,” Lyons said, “...like Walmart on Black Friday.”

A. Super reminded the board and staff that it was urgent that previously designated representatives of EMPL, the Trustees, Friends and the Foundation begin meeting to discuss the ways to maintain the popular Bookmobile program.

Y.S. Report acknowledged.

The meeting adjourned at 10:07 AM on a motion by T. Hegerty. C. Green seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

**Seamus McGraw
Secretary**